

KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

STAFF NOTE

Action/Consent Item:

District facility plan amendments: Boone County and Walton-Verona Independent (Walton-Verona hearing report under separate cover)

Applicable Statute or Regulation:

702 KAR 1:001

Action Question:

Should the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) approve the proposed amendments to the current District Facility Plans for the above listed Kentucky school districts?

History/Background:

Existing Policy.

KRS 157.420 - requires that the capital outlay and Facilities Support Program of Kentucky (Building Fund) allotment from the public school funds be used by school districts for capital construction projects defined by the district's long range facility plan (702 KAR 1:001).

KRS 157.620 - requires each school district to establish unmet facility needs (equal the sum of all capital construction priorities from the district facility plan less local available revenue) to participate in the School Facilities Construction Commission (SFCC) Offer of Assistance.

The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) shall approve all District Facility Plans submitted by the local school district upon recommendation of the Commissioner of Education. The amendment hearing reports are attached.

Staff Recommendation & Rationale:

Staff recommends the KBE approve the proposed amendments to the District Facility Plans for Boone County and Walton-Verona Independent. The plans were developed in accordance with 702 KAR 1:001. The Division of Facilities Management staff certify that all requested actions are justified, meet the intent to provide upgraded facilities, and are in accordance with all applicable statutes and regulations.

Impact on Getting to Proficiency:

In Standard 4 of the Standards and Indicators for School Improvement it is noted that the school's physical environment has an impact on student achievement. Research also indicates

that better facilities enhance equity (equal opportunities for all students), attitudes and retention of staff, and parental involvement.

Groups Consulted and Brief Summary of Responses:

A public forum and a local public hearing were held in the two school districts.

Boone County

The Local Planning Committee voted 15-0 in favor of the amendment. The board voted 5-0 to approve the amendment. Public comments noted at the scheduled local State Board public hearing are outlined in the Hearing Report.

Walton-Verona Independent

The Local Planning Committee voted 9-0 in favor of the amendment. The board voted 5-0 to approve the amendment. The State Board public hearing is scheduled for January 19, 2006. Because of the positive feedback generated during the development of the amendment, it is not anticipated that negative statements will be voiced at that time.

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Deputy Commissioner

Commissioner of Education

Date:

February 2006